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R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As the Examiner will note, claims 1, 5, and 6 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action letter. Since the Examiner has indicated that claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten to eliminate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, it is now believed that the present application containing claims 1, 2 and 4-6 is allowable.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Joseph A. Kolasch (Reg. No. 22,463) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicant respectfully petitions for a three (3) month extension of time for filing

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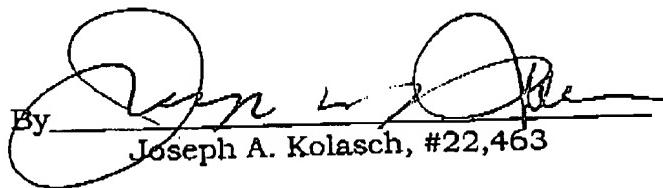
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a response in connection with the present application and the required fee of \$950.00 is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
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JAK/clb

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